## VERIFICATION RESEARCH, TRAINING AND INFORMATION CENTRE

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## **REPORT TO THE THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

In reference to the 73rd Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the 2002 UN Study on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education.

Our implementation of the recommendations to civil society and non-governmental organizations

June 2020-May 2022

## **Executive Summary**

The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) is a non-profit organisation devoted exclusively to verification, implementation, and compliance with respect to international agreements, with a primary focus on agreements concerning non-proliferation and disarmament of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons and the security of related materials. VERTIC provides impartial research and analysis, expert advice and capacity-building, training and legislative assistance on the implementation of such agreements.

The Centre has long-standing activities in support of disarmament and non-proliferation education and training. Those include sharing information and raising awareness during inperson and online workshops and other meetings, as well as through the development of educational tools and courses or lectures. In addition, VERTIC works with relevant national stakeholders from various countries to help build capacity and expertise in disarmament and non-proliferation.

Further information and material are available on VERTIC's <u>website</u>, our You Tube <u>channel</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.

## **Full report**

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VERTIC's **National Implementation Measures** (NIM) programme provides legislative assistance as well as legal research and analysis on the comprehensive national implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004), the Biological and Chemical Weapons Conventions, and the international instruments for nuclear security. NIM raises awareness of the obligations of those instruments, analyses legislation for their implementation, and provides assistance in drafting implementing legislation. The programme also develops associated tools that are freely available on VERTIC's website and have been translated into various languages.

During the period 2020-2022, specific training and educational activities undertaken by staff of the NIM programme have included a series of lectures on CBRN transfer controls legislation at the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv in May-June 2020.

NIM staff also lectured on the international legal framework for nuclear security for the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency educational programmes including the International School of Nuclear Law, the I the Fundamentals of International Nuclear Law.

The NIM team also participated in a number of activities to raise awareness on the implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention, including for example an online training course for BWC National Contact Points in South East Asia organised by the BWC Implementation Support Unit.

Staff of the NIM Programme also developed the European Union NonProliferation and Disarmament Consortium elearning unit 17 on disarmament and non-proliferation law.

VERTIC's **Compliance Mechanisms and Measures Programme** (CMM) has provided over several years training to states and private sector stakeholders on UN Security Council maritime sanctions on the DPRK, including education and awareness-raising through incountry workshops and online meetings, and the development of modular online training courses and publications. Training covers the resolutions as legal instruments, stakeholder obligations, and approaches to national implementation.

The organisation's **Verification and Monitoring (VM)** programme has a decade's experience delivering training and capacity-building on IAEA Safeguards in Africa and Asia, and experts from VM have delivered lectures and outreach on safeguards, nuclear security, nuclear non-proliferation, emerging technology, and other areas.

VERTIC's VM Programme has recently completed a three year project *Building Capacity on Multilateral Verification of Nuclear Disarmament* funded by the Government of Norway. The project focused on engaging countries from the Global South to explore and support their capabilities for involvement in nuclear disarmament verification (NDV). Activities under this project included outreach to students on NDV topics; commissioning research by emerging experts; and involving students in research and development activities alongside working experts. We are also investigating options for developing curricula on NDV for universities and scholarships for women from the Global South.



During this period, the programme also ran a short series of webinars specifically aimed at students, focused on building and sustaining a professional career in non-proliferation and disarmament.

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